


MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 11, 2000

TO: Frank Hawkins, Mohandas Bhat, Ruth Neta, and Libby White

FROM: Barrett Fountos 

SUBJECT: Summary of the September 5, 2000 Meeting of the Chernobyl Oversight Panel

The Chernobyl Oversight Panel (COP) of the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG) met at NCI to review the status of the Chernobyl thyroid and leukemia studies. Dr. Shelia Zahm, Deputy Director, chaired the meeting. Attendees included Dr. Gil Beebe, Ms. Betsy Duane, Dr. Robert Hoover, Dr. Ihor Masnyk, Ms. Sharon Miller, Dr. Jacob Robbins, Ms. Kathi Stine, Dr. Terry Thomas, Dr. Bruce Wachholz, and Mr. Barrett Fountos.

Most of the discussion focused on how to expand the draft responses to the recommendations of ACERER's Subcommittee on the Management Review of the Chernobyl Studies.

The Panel also discussed the draft agenda and timetable for the Trinational Thyroid Studies Collaborators Meeting scheduled for November 13-15. This is to be followed by a workshop on November 16 to consider whether to discontinue urinary iodine measurements in the screening protocol and by a meeting on November 17 to discuss the thyroid re-screening protocol.

The Panel plans to hold a meeting of international organizations conducting Chernobyl-related research in the Spring of 2000 in the DC metro area.

The last hurdle has been cleared for paying the Belarussian scientists their long overdue local supplemental salary support. The payment of incentives to study participants will be handled through the International Red Cross.

I informed them about the 4th Annual Conference of the International Chernobyl Center to be held on September 26-29 in Slavutych, Ukraine, and about the activities of Dr. Terry Lash (NN-1) and the International Radioecology Laboratory in Slavutych. I also mentioned that U.S. AID has a contractor conducting thyroid screening in Ukraine and that it would be beneficial to work with that group to prevent overlap between the NCI and U.S. AID research.

The COP will meet on October 2 at 10:30 a.m. at NCI.